REPORT NO. 79-3-29

FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT UNIT
U. S. FOREST SERVICE
DORAVILLE, GEORGIA

REPORT OF AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: Long Cane Ranger District and Edgefield Ranger District, **Sumter National** Forest

STATE: **South Carolina**

AREA WITHIN SURVEY BOUNDARY: 430, 900 acres

DATE: July 23, 1979

PERCENT COVERAGE: 25%

AIRCRAFT: Cessna 182

CREW: Robert Ridlehoover and Dan Barnes (Long Cane Ranger District), Ronald Birch (Edgefield Ranger District), and Barbara Hammond and Thomas P. Russell (Aerial Survey Team).

REPORT PREPARED BY: B. I. Hammond

SURVEY OBJECTIVES: To detect the presence of southern pine beetle activity within the boundaries of the Long Cane and Edgefield Ranger Districts.

SURVEY RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

Thirty-three spots of red-topped pines ranging in size from three to 200 trees per spot were observed on the Long Cane Ranger District. On the Edgefield Ranger District 30 spots of red pine trees were observed ranging in size from five to 200 trees per spot (see Table 1). The spots were so numerous that it was extremely difficult to plot every spot on the map.

Southern pine beetle activity is steadily increasing on the Long Cane and Edgefield Ranger Districts as indicated by the increase in number and size of spots over the previous flight in March 1979 (refer to Aerial Survey Team Reports #79-3-9 and #79-3-12). Drastic increases in SPB activity is occurring in other areas of South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama. Ground checks by National Forest personnel indicate that many SPB spots have large numbers of green infested trees; an indicator of a rapidly expanding SPB population. Forest Insect and Disease Management and National Forest personnel will continue to monitor this current outbreak.

For any additional information, contact

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Table 1.--Summary of Aerial Survey Data-Long Cane and Edgefield Ranger Districts, Sumter National Forest, South Carolina, July 23, 1979.

Ownership	Infestation Size (#Trees)									
	2-5		6-20		21-50		50+		Total	
	Spots	Trees	Spots	Trees	Spots	Trees	Spots	Trees	Spots	Trees
Long Cane Ranger District	4	20	11	131	4	160	1	200	20	511
Private Lands	4	18	7	103	1	130	1	100	13	242
Edgefield Ranger District	7	35	12	170	5	185	4	500	28	890
Private Lands	0	0	1	15	0	0	1	200	2	215